

Summary Report for Individual Task  
551-88H-1703  
Tie Basic Seamanship Knots  
Status: Approved

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**Distribution Restriction:** Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

**Destruction Notice:** None

**Foreign Disclosure: FD5** - This product/publication has been reviewed by the product developers in coordination with the Transportation School, Fort Lee, VA 23801 foreign disclosure authority.

This product is releasable to students from all requesting foreign countries without restrictions.

**Condition:** Assigned as a Cargo Checker/Handler given a requirement to tie basic seamanship knots in an operational environment, during day or night, in normal weather conditions, safety clothing, a length of rope for tying basic seamanship knots, FM 5-125, TC 4-13.17, and FM 55-501. This task should not be trained in MOPP 4.

**Standard:** Tie basic seamanship knots in accordance with FM 5-125, TC 4-13.17, and FM 55-501.

**Special Condition:** None

**Safety Risk:** Low

**MOPP 4:** Never

<b>Task Statements</b>
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**Cue:** You are a Cargo Checker/ Handler tasked with tying seamanship knots for cargo handling operations.

<b>DANGER</b>
None

<b>WARNING</b>
None

<b>CAUTION</b>
None

**Remarks:** None

**Notes:** None

### Performance Steps

1. Tie a bowline knot (see Figure 3-75).
  - a. Lay the standing part of the rope over the left hand away from you.
  - b. Make an overhand loop with the opposite end away from you.
  - c. Insert the bitter end (running end) from below up through the overhand loop.
  - d. Bring the bitter end under the standing part.
  - e. Pull the bitter end and right side of the eye to pull taut.

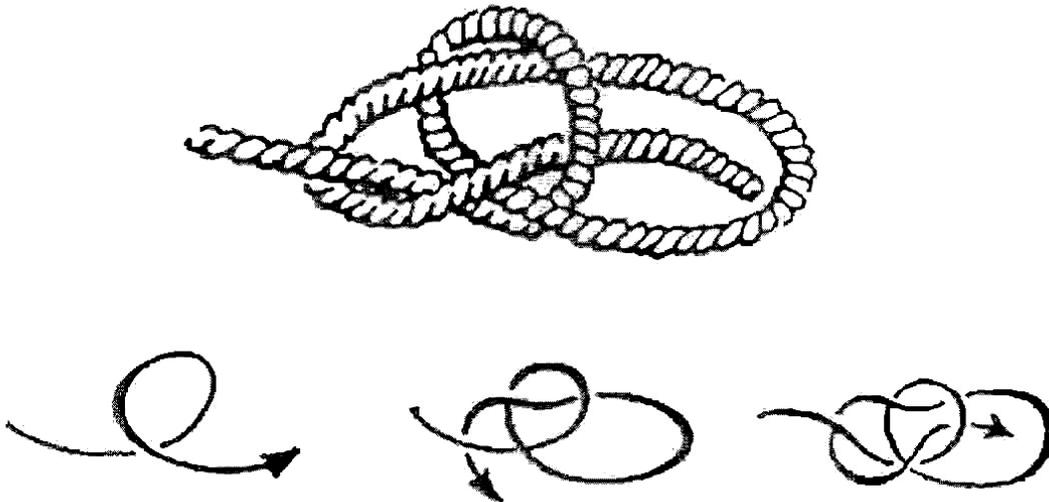
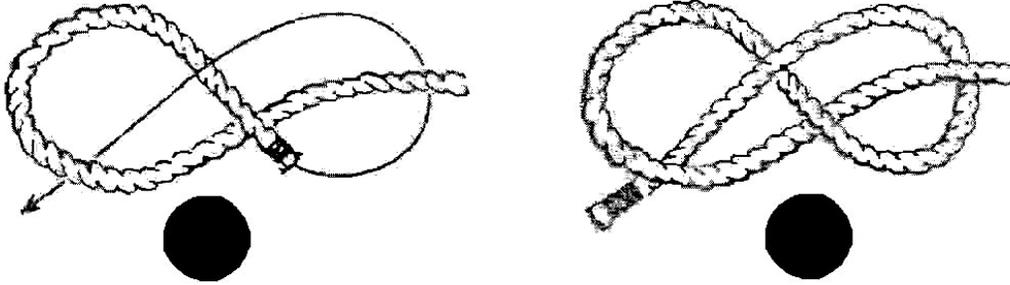


Figure 3-75  
Bowline Knot

2. Tie a figure eight knot (see Figure 3-76).
  - a. Grasp the standing part of the rope in the left hand.
  - b. With the right hand, make a loop with the running end.
  - c. Bring the running end under the standing part and make another loop.
  - d. Insert the running end through the first loop.
  - e. Pull the running end tight, forming a figure eight knot.

## Right-to-Left Method



## Left-to-Right Method

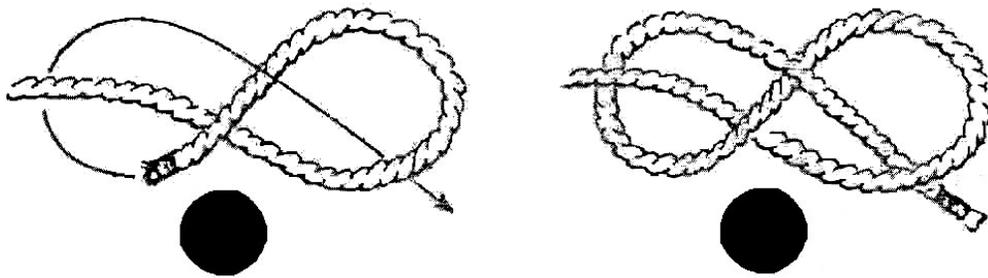


Figure 3-76  
Figure Eight Knot

3. Tie a square knot (see Figure 3-77).
  - a. Take the two running ends of the rope and cross one under the other.
  - b. Bring the two running ends up.
  - c. Cross the two running ends opposite the first crossing.
  - d. Pull the two running ends tight.

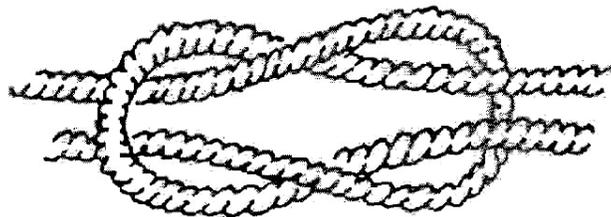


Figure 3-77  
Square Knot

4. Tie an overhand knot (see Figure 3-78).
  - a. Grasp the standing part of the rope in the left hand.
  - b. With the right hand, take the running end and make a loop.
  - c. Bring the running end over and under the standing part and pull it through the loop.
  - d. Pull the running end tight to form a knot.

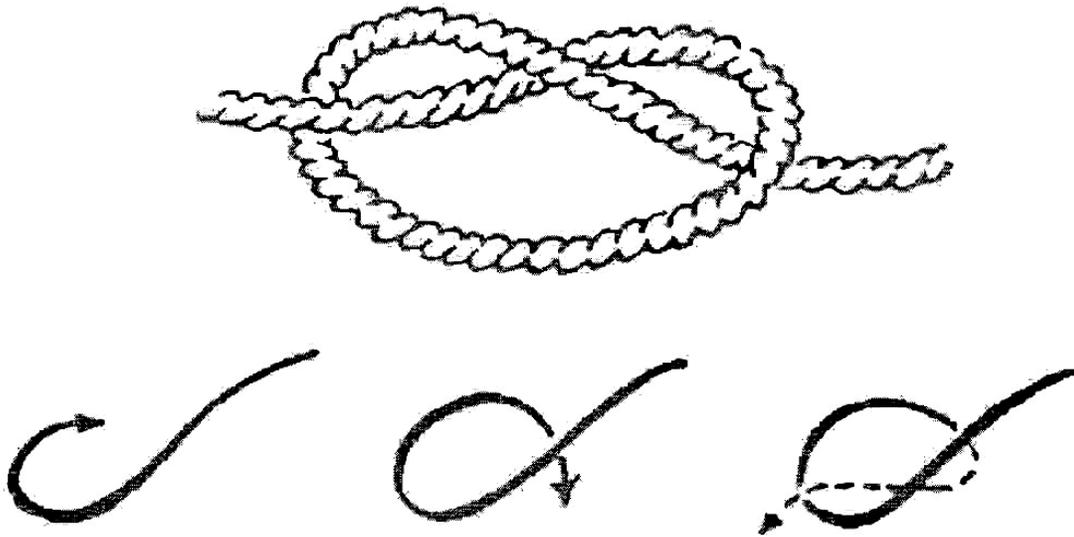


Figure 3-78  
Overhand Knot

5. Tie a half hitch (see Figure 3-79).
  - a. Take the running end of the rope and make two round turns around a pole or spar.
  - b. Bring the running end around the standing part and bring it back under the turn to form a half hitch
  - c. Pull the running end tight, forming a half hitch.

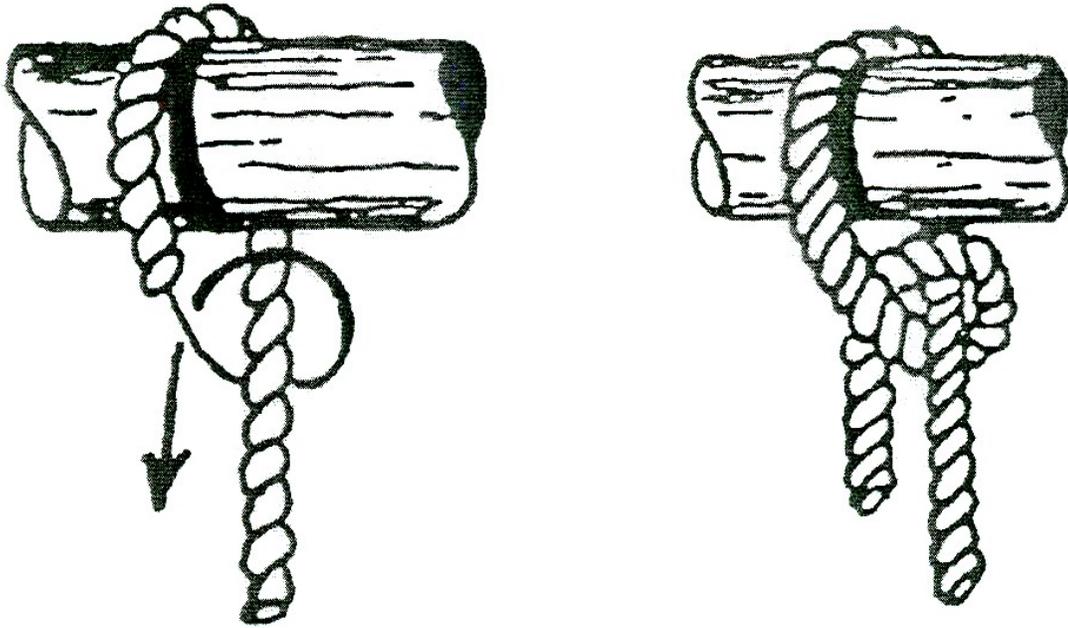


Figure 3-79  
Half Hitch

6. Tie a rolling hitch (see Figure 3-80).

- a. Take a turn around the line and bring the running end back to the standing part.
- b. Take the running end and make another turn across the first turn. This completes the hitch itself.
- c. Pull taught.

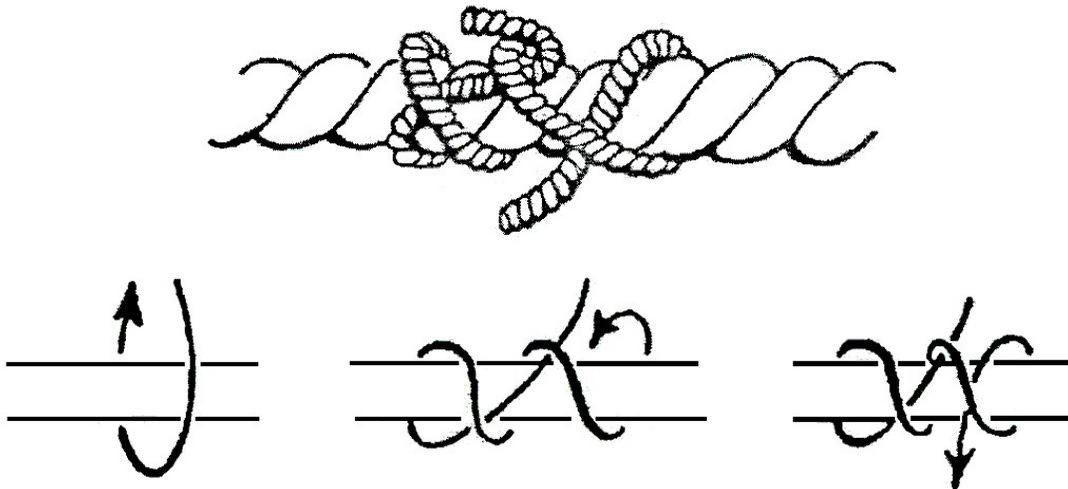


Figure 3-80  
Rolling Hitch

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

**Evaluation Guidance:** Score the soldier a GO if all performance measures are correctly completed/pass (P). Score the Soldier a NO-GO if any of the performance measures are missed or incorrectly performed/fail (F).

**Evaluation Preparation:** Provide the Soldier with all the material and equipment listed in the condition statement.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. Tied a bowline knot.			
2. Tied a figure eight knot.			
3. Tied a square knot.			
4. Tied an overhand knot.			
5. Tied a half hitch.			
6. Tied a rolling hitch.			

**Supporting Reference(s):**

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	TC 4-13.17	Cargo Specialist's Handbook	Yes	No
	TC 4-15.51	MARINE CREWMAN'S HANDBOOK	Yes	No
	TM 3-34.86	Rigging Techniques, Procedures, and Applications {MCRP 3-17.7j}	Yes	No

**Environment:** Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to FM 3-34.5 Environmental Considerations and GTA 05-08-002 ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED RISK ASSESSMENT. Leaders must ensure that their unit has an active and strong environmental program. They must understand the laws and know what actions to take. Leaders bring focus, direction, and commitment to environmental protection. Commanding officers should ensure the following environmental programs are in place and are being maintained:

- " Hazardous materials program.
- " Hazardous waste program.
- " Hazardous communications program.
- " Pollution prevention and hazardous waste minimization recycling program.
- " Spill prevention and response plan program.

**Safety:** In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with FM 5-19, Risk Management. Leaders will complete a DA Form 7566 COMPOSITE RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHEET during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Protection, FM 3-11.5, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Decontamination. All soldiers and leaders must maintain a proactive posture towards safety in day-to-day operations. The need for total commitment to safety should be evident to commanders, senior soldiers, and their subordinates. The importance of safety is intensified for personnel conducting cargo securing operations. Safety awareness is most effective at three levels: command, leader, and individual. Observe all Warnings and Cautions.

**Prerequisite Individual Tasks :** None

**Supporting Individual Tasks :** None

**Supported Individual Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
551-88H-4508	Monitor Marine Terminal Operations	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved
551-88H-2408	Direct Hatch Cover Operations	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved

**Supported Collective Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
55-2-1508	Conduct Vessel Operations	55 - Transportation (Collective)	Approved

**ICTL Data :**

ICTL Title	Personnel Type	MOS Data
MOS 88H - CARGO SPECIALIST SL1	Enlisted	MOS: 88H, Skill Level: SL1, Duty Pos: TAZ
MOS 88H - CARGO SPECIALIST SL2	Enlisted	MOS: 88H, Skill Level: SL2, Duty Pos: ABW
MOS 88H - CARGO SPECIALIST SL4	Enlisted	MOS: 88H, Skill Level: SL4, Duty Pos: TGI
MOS 88H - CARGO SPECIALIST SL3	Enlisted	MOS: 88H, Skill Level: SL3, Duty Pos: TBA